

CHAPLIN
INLAND WETLANDS AND WATERCOURSES COMMISSION
Regular Monthly Meeting
Meeting Minutes

Chaplin Town Hall, 495 Phoenixville Road, Chaplin CT 06235
September 23, 2015 @ 7:00P.M.

Present: Chairman, Scott Matthies; Sharyn Rusch; Michael Jenkins; Harry Naumec; Michael O'Neill, Alternate; Joe Theroux, IWWC Agent; Suzanne Gluck, Recording Secretary.

Members Absent: Peter Stick; Peter Kegler; and Paul Deveny

Others: Chris Komuves, Resident. Mr. Cates, Resident

Regular Meeting

1. Call to Order

Mr. Matthies called the regular meeting to order at 7:03pm.

2. Seating of Alternates

Michael O'Neill for Regular Member (Vacancy)

3. Additions to Agenda:

Michael O'Neill made a motion to add Application IW-03-15: 122 Bedlam Road to new business. Sharyn Rusch seconded the motion. All in favor.

4. Approval of Minutes – 8/26/15

Sharyn Rusch made a motion to approve the minutes for August 26, 2015. Michael Jenkins seconded the motion. All in favor.

5. Audience of Citizens

None at this time.

6. Old Business:

A. Application IW-02-15: 656 Phoenixville Rd. Mr. Daniel Cates construction of a single family residence within the upland review area.

Mr. Matthies stated that Mr. Cates was before the Commission last month and they had a scheduled site walk. Joe Theroux had no issues with the plan, as long as a silt fence is maintained when they are grading and constructing. Mr. Matthies stated that basically the house is replacing the trailer that was there and that a silt fence is sufficient to protect surrounding wetlands. The soils are well drained and any disturbances when digging the run off won't go far, the silt fence should handle sediment movement. There are good soils for the septic and sufficient area. Mr. Matthies reminded Mr. Cates that if there are any other modifications from the Planning & Zoning Commission,

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then he needs to come back to the IWWC. Mr. Cates stated that the only change would be a larger lot but the house plans will remain the same. **Michael Jenkins made a motion to approve Application IW-02-15: 656 Phoenixville Rd. Michael O'Neill seconded the motion. All in favor.**

7. New Business:

- A. **Application IW-03-15: 122 Bedlam Road** – Joe Theroux informed the board that Chris Komuves filled out an application with a revised site plan and also presented some pictures of the site. According to Mr. Komuves the NRCS engineer has not yet returned his calls and he is waiting for their OK for him to go down past where the slope is now and create somewhat like a retaining wall which is only a few feet difference. Mr. Komuves reported that he removed the bigger rocks and put small rock in the bottom of the stream bed so it would not erode (no channel modifications). Also, NRCS wanted rocks removed so it would not constrict waterway, they want it to be 5 feet wide where it exits the pond. According to Mr. Komuves all that is left is removing rocks from outlet and resolving the 4 to 1 slope. The far side of the pond from the road where mulch has been seeded. The grant from NRCS is on hold until application is approved by IWWC. Joe Theroux discussed the removal of invasive plant species in wetland is no different than silviculture which is a permitted use of right under Section 4 in the regulations. If he wants to go through forest and then wetlands and remove timber size trees as part of a forest mgt plan which is in place currently the IWWC would have to rule as a permitted use of right and non-regulated. Mr. Matthies stated that he would like to see a description of removal methods, a brief narrative on these invasive and soil disturbances and how it will be kept to a minimum. Mr. Komuves stated that it is already a part of the forest management plan he has developed. Also, the barberry is being pulled out and put into piles to die off. **Michael O'Neill made a motion to accept the application for 122 Bedlam Road. Sharyn Rusch seconded the motion. All in favor.**

8. Correspondence

Mr. Matthies handed out the winter addition of The Habitat Newsletter to the Commission. Joe Theroux also shared the CT Wildlife magazine.

9. Administrative Report

Joe Theroux reported that only one application came in for timber harvest for the Patel gas station property. In 2006 Kim Sprague requested a permit to log 30+ acres, the job was never done and now new loggers will be doing it. Permit was issued, but Planning & Zoning must approve.

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10. Commission Discussion

Scott Matthies discussed reducing the size of the Commission. It will be a process, must meet with First Selectman, attorney will need to write an ordinance, it needs to go through an election cycle, when terms end just drop these member vacancies to 5. Three member terms end in 2017 – Michael Jenkins, Harry Naumec, and the vacant term so two of these three would be eliminated. Maybe we go to 5 members and keep 3 alternates. Joe Theroux suggested notifying residents before the election process to gain some interest in joining IWWC, maybe a town newsletter, etc.

11. Adjournment

Sharyn Rusch made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 7:45pm, Michael O'Neill seconded the motion. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 7:45pm.